

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION

Developmental Disabilities Committee Meeting

LOCATION

Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference

Meeting Date

June 3, 2013
2:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Art Delaune
Kathy Fitzgerald
Ric Nelson
Susan Kaplan
Kaleene Lamb
Steve Lesko
Sean O'Brien
James Wiedle
Sharon Miranda
Duane Mayes
Dave Fleurant
Mary Elam
Caroline Hogan

Staff:

Patrick Reinhart

Minutes prepared by: Paula DiPaolo, Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order – 2:00 p.m.
Roll Call

READING OF THE COUNCIL MISSION

Susan Kaplan read the Council's mission statement: Creating change that improves the lives of people with disabilities.

INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND GOOD NEWS

Patrick Reinhart announced that the Council's new employee, Amanda Cooper, will be starting on Monday, June 10th. She will be overseeing the health grant and the ASPEN project.

Kathy Fitzgerald announced that this will be her last meeting as chair of the DD Committee.

APPROVE THE AGENDA

Kathy Fitzgerald added a discussion of FASD under Old Business. Ric Nelson **MOVED** to approve the agenda as amended. The motion **PASSED**.

APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE PAST MEETING

Steve Lesko **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the April 1st meeting. The motion **PASSED**.

CORRESPONDENCE

Patrick Reinhart stated that the Council wrote a letter of support for HB 147, which was the continuation of the autism insurance task force.

OLD BUSINESS

FASD

Kathy Fitzgerald stated that at the January Council meeting, many families

testified at public comment regarding the inability to get supports and services for their children with FASD. She stated that this issue needs to stay on the radar for the DD Committee and the Council for individuals who meet the functional criteria for DD. Art Delaune added that there was some discussion last week at the FASD Summit regarding the same issues.

NEW BUSINESS

Gap in Services for CBC/North Star Transition

Kathy Fitzgerald stated that there has been some concern regarding the new system that will be created between the Complex Behavior Collaborative and North Star Behavioral Health in terms of transition back into the community. She stated that the concern is that community staff will not be able to be paid to come into North Star to be trained to work with the individual before they are transitioned back to the community. She feels that this is a policy issue they somehow need to negotiate.

Patrick Reinhart suggested looking into State-granted nursing facility transition funding. Duane Mayes supported the idea and suggested they discuss the idea with Reta Sullivan.

FY'14 Priorities – Preliminary Discussion of the Work Plan

Patrick Reinhart directed committee members to the one-page handout regarding the priorities for the DD Committee and noted that this is the basis for the committee's work plan. Kathy Fitzgerald explained that the full Council voted on these as the priorities for the DD Committee at the May Council meeting.

Ric Nelson stated that he would like to see the work plan go back to the old format where it clearly identified who, when, and how they are going to work on the plan and when they are going to get items accomplished. Patrick Reinhart stated that Council staff will pull together a draft work plan in that type of format prior to the next DD Committee meeting.

Kathy Fitzgerald stated that the priorities for the committee are in a new format this year, which is a format that coincides with the Council's federal reporting requirements for the Five-Year State Plan.

Patrick Reinhart also commented that during the full Council meeting, it was noted that some of the priorities overlap committees. Art Delaune suggested creating a document for this committee that outlines which committees are addressing which priorities so everyone is clear on who is doing what regarding each of the priorities.

FY'14 Plan for New Chair

Susan Kaplan **MOVED** to accept Art Delaune as the new chair of the DD Committee starting in July. The motion **PASSED**. Ric Nelson will then approve the committee chair designees when he becomes the official chair of the Council in July.

FY'14 Plan for Possible New Monthly Meeting Time

The committee members held a brief discussion regarding setting a regular DD Committee meeting date and time. Patrick Reinhart stated that Carrie Predeger can talk to Art Delaune, and they can send out a Doodle to other committee members to set the regular date and time for the meeting.

REPORTS

AHFC

James Wiedle stated that this spring AHFC started a housing assistance program for any youth transitioning out of foster care. He stated that this HUD money has to be spent outside of Anchorage. He noted that it might be an opportunity for the DD Committee to try to look for ways to advocate for that within Anchorage, funded by the Municipality of Anchorage. Kathy Fitzgerald noted that the largest number of youth coming out of foster care are in Anchorage.

James Wiedle also stated that there is a voucher called the Qualified Medicaid Waiver Voucher, where if a person qualifies and there is a voucher eligible for them, they can use that for housing assistance placement in the community.

Patrick Reinhart suggested that for future meetings, the DD Committee might want to dedicate a housing topic to each meeting because it sounds like AHFC has made a lot of changes that would be relevant to areas the committee is interested in.

Committee Reports

Division of Senior and Disability Services

Duane Mayes stated provided the DD Registry report, but noted that the number of regional “unknowns” was relatively high. Caroline Hogan will check back with Maureen Harwood to get clarification on that number for the committee.

Duane stated that the Home and Community-Based Waiver regulations will be coming out on July 1st.

He noted that also on July 1st they are going to go live with telehealth for reassessments. They are going to pilot five sites and hopefully within six months have done a couple hundred reassessments. They telehealth equipment is being installed, and he is hoping to make the telehealth equipment part of his presentation to the House Finance Committee when they discuss the effectiveness of using telehealth as a way to meet compliance issues and save costs.

Duane Mayes stated that they continue to work on their automated service plan project, and they have approximately \$13 million to go toward this project. They have already negotiated with one vendor, and they will probably negotiate with another vendor. He is in the process for interviewing for a project manager to lead the project team of four people. He stated that they plan to award the contract to a vendor this summer, and from that point forward, the project will take anywhere from a year to a year-and-a-half to complete.

Duane stated that SDS continues to be engaged in the State as a Model Employer Initiative. From the approximately 100 work experiences they have offered within the Division, six people who experience disabilities have been hired in the higher-level ranges of employment. He stated that this coming Thursday, the Department is holding a leadership summit, and

Duane is going to call to action the other directors of the various Department divisions to do the same thing. Patrick Reinhart stated that he will provide Duane copies of the report that was completed by the Council for the State as a Model Employer Initiative.

Sean O'Brien added that in terms of the provisional hire program, there are some issues with the regulations in the HR recruitment section regarding provisional hire. This issue will be on the agenda for their June or July HR board meeting.

AADD

Emily Ennis stated that she is attending this meeting for Kim Champney, who is on sabbatical. Michael Bailey will be sitting in for Kim for the next few DD Committee meetings.

Emily stated that AADD had an excellent retreat on May 3rd, which was attended by representatives of SDS as well as Teresa Holt from the Governor's Council. They had a worthwhile day of discussion and planning, and it heightened their communications and their collaboration going forward. Their second follow-up retreat will be held on October 30th.

Emily stated that AADD is looking forward to seeing the new waiver regulations that are coming out on July 1st. She stated that they also sent a letter to the Office of Rate Review asking for more information about the rate methodology process that will be used. AADD has been assured that they will be able to see the methodology sometime after the regulations are published and available for public comment.

Kathy Fitzgerald asked about the progress with acuity, and Duane Mayes stated that Meyers & Stauffer have been actively meeting with the research analysis unit staff to look at the SDS system. He is hopeful that they will be able to come out with some recommendations within the next three to six months. He stated that they are very supportive of the tiered approach to acuity.

Key Coalition

Steve Lesko reported that Key is scheduled to have a summer meeting.

They want to accomplish a few things in their work plan in addition to formulating priorities, such as follow up with legislators from last session to thank them for the successes and share with them things that still need to be done.

Council and Executive Committee Update

Ric Nelson stated that the Executive Committee is holding an all-day meeting next week.

Peer Power

Ric Nelson reported that due to telecommunication difficulties, the Peer Power meetings did not happen last month. The next meeting is next Tuesday. They are still working on hiring their new Peer Power advisor.

Kathy Fitzgerald stated that it is the responsibility of DD Committee members to recruit new members of Peer Power and assist with getting the group reorganized.

Disability Law Center

Dave Fleurant stated that although he does not have a report to share with the committee today, he will be happy to add himself to the agenda for regular reports to share the concerns and trends that Disability Law Center is seeing.

OTHER INFORMATION FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Ric Nelson thanked Kathy Fitzgerald for all her hard work and dedication to the DD Committee.

TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date and time of the next meeting will be determined by a Doodle.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.